

HEALTH  
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# 1950 REPORT

*of the*

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



SHILDON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



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## SHILDON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1951

*Chairman of the Council, 1950-1951*

Councillor T. W. STOREY, J.P.

*Vice-Chairman:* Councillor F. H. MANNERS*Chairman of the Health Committee:* Councillor W. H. GIBSON*Chairman of the Housing Committee:* Coun. T. W. STOREY, J.P.*Councillors:*

J. H. APPLEBY	C. T. BROWNLESS	J. O. LAIDLOW
A. ASTON	G. COATES, C.C.	G. W. KIRTLEY, J.P.
E. BARLOW	C. COOK	P. PEARCE
W. BLAND	P. R. DOUTHWAITE	W. STOKOE
J. BOX	W. EDWARDS	B. WALKER, J.P.
H. BOUGHTON	G. C. GIBSON	

*Public Health Officers of the Local Authority**Medical Officer of Health (part-time):*

P. V. ANDERSON, M.B., B.S.

*Sanitary Inspector:*

W. K. HILL, M.B.E., M.R.San.I., A.I.Hsg.

*Clerical Assistant:*

S. THOMPSON

**TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS  
OF THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SHILDON**

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit herewith my Annual Report upon the Vital Statistics and Sanitary Work of the District during the year ending 31st December, 1950.

P. V. ANDERSON,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

**Population:**

The Registrar General's figures as at the Middle of 1950 give the resident population of the district as 14,740.

**Area:**

The Urban District covers 4,970 acres, including the parishes of Eldon, Old Eldon, Fylands, Middridge and Brusselton.

**Inhabited Houses:**

The estimated number of inhabited houses in the District at the end of December, 1950, was 4,362.

Of this number, 55 were recently constructed and 2 Condemned and Demolition Orders served under Section II of the Housing Act, 1936.

**Rateable Value:**

The Rateable Value of the District is £48,125 and the Product of a Penny Rate £165.

## VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	Male	Female	Total	Birth Rate
Legitimate	127	115	242	17·30
Illegitimate	5	8	13	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	132	123	255	
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Still Births	Male	Female	Total	Birth Rate
Legitimate	8	4	12	·81
Illegitimate	—	—	—	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	8	4	12	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	

## Comparative Years:

1946	Live Births.	Birthrate per 1,000 population ...	20·87
	Still Births.	Birthrate per 1,000 population ...	·76
1947	Live Births.	Birthrate per 1,000 population ...	25·78
	Still Births.	Birthrate per 1,000 population ...	1·4
1948	Live Births.	Birthrate per 1,000 population ...	18·9
	Still Births.	Birthrate per 1,000 population ...	·8
1949	Live Births.	Birthrate per 1,000 population ...	13·04
	Still Births.	Birthrate per 1,000 population ...	·68
1950	Live Births.	Birthrate per 1,000 population ...	17·3
	Still Births.	Birthrate per 1,000 population ...	·81

## Comparison with Country Averages:

Country (England and Wales, Small Towns):

Birth Rate	...	...	...	...	...	16·7
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Shildon:

Birth Rate	...	...	...	...	...	17·3
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## DEATHS AS PER RETURN TO MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

### Total Number of Deaths Notified :

Under 1 yr.	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-60	60-70	70-80	Over 80
5	—	1	3	4	24	31	48	26

### Deaths Outside the District:

Males	Females	Total
41	25	66

## COMPARISONS WITH COUNTRY AVERAGE

### Maternal Death Rate:

Country Average (Small Towns)	4.33 per 1,000 Live Births
Shildon Average	... .. 3.92 per 1,000 Live Births

### Deaths —All Causes under 1 year of age:

Country Average (Small Towns)	29.4 per 1,000 Live Births
Shildon Average	... .. 58.8 per 1,000 Live Births

### Tuberculosis Death Rate:

Country Average (Small Towns)	0.33 per 1,000 population
Shildon Average	... .. 0.67 per 1,000 population

### All Causes:

Country Average (Small Towns)	11.6 per 1,000 population
Shildon Average	... .. 12.82 per 1,000 population



**DEATHS, 1950**

	Male	Female	Total	Death Rate
Deaths ... ..	102	97	199	12·82
Infantile Under 1 year ..	11	4	15	58·8
Still Births ...	8	4	12	47·0

**COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR PREVIOUS YEARS**

Year	Death Rate per 1,000 Population
1905	19·2
1939	11·4
1940	14·9
1941	13·5
1942	13·2
1943	15·0
1944	13·1
1945	12·8
1946	13·04
1947	13·6
1948	12·8
1949	11·62
1950	12·82

**INFANT MORTALITY RATE**

Year	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births
1905	167·
1936	72·
1946	61·
1947	53·3
1948	36·3
1949	56·4
1950	58·8

### Comparison with Country Average, 1950

	Death Rate	Inf. Mort. Rate	Still Birth Rate	Birth Rate
Country Average (Small Towns)	11·6	29·4	0·38	16·7
Schildon Average ... ..	12·82	58·8	0·81	17·3

Causes of Death, 1950	Male	Female
All Causes .. .. .	102	97
Tuberculosis (respiratory system) .. .. .	4	6
Other Tubercular Disease .. .. .	—	—
Syphilitic Disease .. .. .	—	—
Diphtheria .. .. .	—	—
Whooping Cough .. .. .	—	—
Meningococcal Infections .. .. .	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis .. .. .	—	—
Measles .. .. .	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases .. .. .	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach .. .. .	4	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus .. .. .	5	—
Malignant neoplasm, breast .. .. .	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus .. .. .	—	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic neoplasms .. .. .	11	8
Leukaemia aleukaemia .. .. .	—	1
Diabetes .. .. .	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system .. .. .	11	16
Coronary disease angina .. .. .	14	7
Hypertension with heart disease .. .. .	6	2
Other heart disease .. .. .	9	22
Other circulatory disease .. .. .	12	8
Influenza .. .. .	—	1
Pneumonia .. .. .	2	2
Bronchitis .. .. .	7	4
Other disease of respiratory system .. .. .	—	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .. .. .	2	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea .. .. .	—	—
Nephritis and nepjrosis .. .. .	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate .. .. .	2	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .. .. .	—	1
Congenital malformations .. .. .	2	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases .. .. .	8	9
Motor Vehicle Accidents .. .. .	—	—
All other accidents .. .. .	—	1
Suicide .. .. .	1	—
Homicide and operations of war .. .. .	—	—
	102	97



## DEATHS IN SHILDON — ALL CAUSES OF

Cancer	Male	Female
Buccal Cavity	—	—
Oesophagus		
Uterus		
Stomach	2	—
Duodenum	—	1
All other sites	8	5
Pulmonary T.B.	3	4
Other Respiratory	4	4
Heart Disease	20	33
Other Circulatory	11	7
Intra Cranial Vascular	11	14
Bronchitis	2	1
Pneumonia	—	1

## TUBERCULOSIS, 1950

The following cases remained upon the Register at the end of the year :—

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
Males ... ..	42	32	74
Females ... ..	50	33	83
	—	—	—
	92	65	157
	—	—	—

The number of known Tuberculosis Cases in the District represents 1·06% of the population, an increase of ·13% on the previous year.

During the year the assistance of the Mass Radiography Unit was procured for the area and 934 persons from factories and 480 from the public were X-rayed.

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

With the inception of the National Health Act, (5th July, 1948), this service became the responsibility of the Durham County Council.

## Estimated Mid-Year Child Population (1950)

Under 4 yrs.	5-14	Total
1,409	2,320	3,729

## SUMMARY OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS

INFECTIOUS DISEASE	Under 1 yr.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-61	Over 61
SCARLET FEVER	—	2	3	8	3	8	2	—	—	—	—	—
DIPHTHERIA ..	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
PUERPERAL PYREXIA ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
PNEUMONIA ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	6	2
MEASLES .. ..	20	33	38	48	39	47	2	—	—	1	1	—
WHOOPING COUGH .. ..	1	4	1	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ERYSIPELAS ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
POLIOMYELITIS	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TUBERCULOSIS— MALES												
(i) PULMONARY	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	2	1	—
(ii) NON-PULMONARY	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
FEMALES												
(i) PULMONARY	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	1	2	—
(ii) NON-PULMONARY	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
PARATYPHOID FEVER .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ENTERIC FEVER	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—

Note.—Of the above mentioned cases of Diphtheria, one case was “ Confirmed ” and was not immunised.

The other case “ Not Confirmed.” All cases of Infectious Disease requiring hospital treatment are accommodated at Tindale Crescent Infectious Disease Hospital which has 109 beds for the purpose.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Water Supply:

The area is supplied by means of a piped supply of water provided by the Durham County Water Board and continues to be ample in all wards and is of excellent quality.

Continual bacteriological and chemical tests are carried out by the Durham County Water Board on the supply to the District which have proved satisfactory.

### Refuse Collection:

The whole area is serviced by the Council, the service including the collection of house refuse, trade refuse and salvage.

### Collection of Kitchen Waste:

Since the commencement of the collection of kitchen waste in 1949, the total amount collected is as follows :—

Year	Description		Tons	Cwts.
1949	Raw Kitchen Waste	...	24	3
1950	Raw Kitchen Waste	...	110	16

### Collection of Salvage:

The Council were successful in negotiating a contract with the Thames Board Mills for the purchase of all their Waste Paper collected in their area. This service has been included in the normal collection of refuse in the district and with the co-operation of the residents in the area has contributed a large amount towards the Rate Fund thereby helping to keep the rates down and it is hoped that the members of the public will continue to support the Council in this effort.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The drains and sewers continue to work in a satisfactory manner, and the sewage works give excellent results.

## RODENT CONTROL

Two complete sewer treatments were carried out during the months March and August, 1950, the results of which show a marked drop in the number of rats present in the Urban District. In addition, private businesses and dwelling houses were also treated as and where necessary. A full-time Rodent Operator is now employed by the Council for the purpose of carrying out this work. A great deal of assistance could be rendered by the public in the area if they would promptly report Rat Infestation to the Council Offices.

## SMOKE ABATEMENT

Improvements in Smoke Abatement have been effected during the year, especially on Factory Sites and the Council still continue to enlist the assistance of the Ministry of Fuel and Power when necessary.

### Summary of Notices and Work Done in the Sanitary Inspectors' Department during the year 1950.

				No. of Informal Notices	No. of Formal Notices	No. Abated
<b>I. Public Health Acts:</b>						
Dwelling-houses and Schools	}	Structural Defects		46	72	57
Dwelling-houses and Schools		Foul Conditions		—	—	—
Cowsheds	...	...	...	—	—	—
Bakehouses	...	...	...	6	—	6
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	—	—	—
Deposits of Refuse and Manure	...	...	...	4	—	4
Water Closets	...	...	...	4	3	7
Defective Yard Paving	...	...	...	—	—	—
House	}	Defective Traps		—	—	—
Drainage		Other Faults		...	—	—
Water Supply	...	...	...	—	—	—
Smoke Nuisances	...	...	...	3	3	6
Rodent Control	...	...	...	45	3	48
Other Nuisances	...	...	...	53	—	53
				161	81	181

### II. Water, Food and Drugs:

Samples of Water taken for Analysis (water supplies taken by Durham County Water Board)	...	...	1
Seziures of Unwholesome Food (voluntarily surrendered)	153		



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF AREA (Cont.)

### III. Precautions against Infectious Disease:

Lots of Infectious Bedding Stoved or Destroyed	...	3
(Three lots destroyed)		
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease	...	29

### IV. General:

Number of New Houses Erected during Year	...	55
Number of such Houses Occupied during Year	...	55
Total Number of Water Closets in District	...	3,934
Total Number of Ash-Closets in District	...	440

## MILK RETAILERS (DESIGNATED MILK)

There are fourteen (14) retail purveyors of milk in the District, three (3) of whom are supplying either Pasteurised or Tuberculin Tested Milk.

Frequent samples have been taken by the Inspector of Weights and Measures and also by the Durham War Agricultural Executive Committee's representatives and all were found to be satisfactory.

## FOOD AND DRUGS (MEAT)

All meat for the Shildon Urban Area, is supplied by the W.M.S.A. situate at Bishop Auckland, where home-killed meat is inspected before delivery to this area.

Of the imported frozen meat delivered to this area 632½ lbs. were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

Maternity and Child Welfare centre provides for consultation and treatment twice weekly.

School Clinic provides for consultation and treatment twice weekly.

## AMBULANCE FACILITIES

Since 5th July, 1948, Ambulance Services have been provided by the Durham County Council, the centre for this area being Bishop Auckland, where six ambulances are available. In



addition a private ambulance is still available for subscribers who work at Shildon British Railways Wagon Works. Should none of these be available at any time, then the Bishop Auckland Centre calls upon the Pool for an ambulance, the nearest emergency centre being at Crook.

## HOUSING

The Council's Pre-War and Post-War Housing Programmes are summarised as follows :—

1919 Act	... ..	126 Houses Erected
1930-1935 Acts (Slum Clearance, Overcrowding)	... ..	100 Houses Erected
Post-War Temporary Houses	...	44 Houses Erected
Post-War Permanent Houses	...	159 Houses Erected
Post-War Aged People's Bungalows		26 Erected

Since the opening of the Council's Housing List in June, 1946, the Council now have 1,000 applicants on their list for houses.

Houses have been allocated on a Points Scheme, namely, points for Overcrowding, Lack of Bedroom Accommodation and Standard of Existing Housing.

Special Cases due to serious illness, e.g., Tuberculosis or other urgent reasons, were re-considered under the Hardship List.

In addition, the Council has had to provide houses for Key Workers in the new factories in their area and has also provided accommodation for the Police to assist the Durham County Constabulary to provide better service to the area.

## FACTORIES ACT, 1949

Visits are paid regularly to the factories in the District to ensure that they comply with the various Provisions, Rules and Orders under this Act.

I remain,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

P. V. ANDERSON,

*Medical Officer of Health*

*Shildon Urban District Council*



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